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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-16, 18, 23, 30-33 and 55-69 without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein. Moreover, please amend claims 17, 36, 40 and 43-45 as follows:

Claims 1-16 (cancelled)

17. (Currently amended) A combination of at least a first laminate (1a) having a first edge (60a) and a second laminate (1b) having a second edge (60b) joined together at a welded seam (80) in an edge area (65), and wherein each of the laminates (1a, 1b) has a laminate-thickness and the welded seam (80) has a seam-thickness wherein said seam-thickness is substantially equal to the laminate-thickness.
each of said laminates comprising:
a first layer (50) comprising a waterproof functional layer and
a second textile layer (30) laminated to said first layer (50) and comprising
at least a first component and a second component,

the first component being stable to a first temperature and the second component melting at a second temperature, wherein the first temperature is higher than the second temperature,
wherein the seam (80) is formed by the melted second component and the non-melted first component of the textile layers of each laminate, and
the first edge (60a) is oriented to the second edge (60b) in a substantially edge-to-edge butted orientation.
18. (Cancelled)
19. (Original) The combination of claim 17, wherein the welded seam (80) is substantially non-linear.

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20. (Original) The combination of claim 17, wherein the welded seam (80) is in the form of at least one curvature to form a three-dimensional combination.
21. (Original) The combination of claim 17, wherein the welded seam (80) is reinforced by at least one reinforcement.
22. (Original) The combination of claim 21, wherein the reinforcement is selected from the group of materials comprising tapes, threads, textile laminates.
23. (cancelled)
24. (Original) The combination of claim 17, wherein the second component is meltable at a temperature in the range of from 160°C to 230°C.
25. (Original) The combination of claim 17, wherein the first component is stable to a temperature of at least 180°C.
26. (Original) The combination of claim 17, wherein the difference between the first temperature and the second temperature is at least 20°C.
27. (Original) The combination of claim 17, wherein the seam (80) withstands a water entry pressure of at least 0.07 bar.
28. (Original) The combination of claim 17, wherein the seam (80) withstands a water entry pressure of at least 0.13 bar.
29. (Original) The combination of claim 17, wherein the seam (80) has a width less than 0.25 cm.

Claims 30-33 (Cancelled)

34. (Original) The combination of claim 17, wherein the second layer (30) is a knitted, woven or non-woven textile layer.

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35. (Original) The combination of claim 17, wherein the first component is selected from the group of polymers comprising polyester, polyamide, cellulose or protein fibers.
36. (Currently amended) The combination of claim 17, wherein the first component is a polyamide [6.6].
37. (Original) The combination of claim 17, wherein the second component is a thermoplastic.
38. (Original) The combination of claim 17, wherein the second component is selected from the group of thermoplastics comprising co-polyester, polyamide, co-polyamide and polyolefin.
39. (Original) The combination of claim 17, wherein the second component is a polypropylene.
40. (Currently amended) The combination of claim 17, wherein the second component is a polyamide [6].
41. (Original) The combination of claim 17, wherein the second component is melted using ultrasonic energy.
42. (Original) The combination of claim 17, wherein the seam (80) is formed continuously.
43. (Currently amended) The combination of claim 17, wherein the [functional] first layer (50) is a membrane or a film.
44. (Currently amended) The combination of claim 17, wherein the [functional] first layer (50) is selected from the group of materials consisting of polyesters, polyamides, polyolefins, polyvinylchloride, polyketones, polysulfones, polycarbonates, fluoropolymers, polyacrylates, polyurethanes, co-polyetheresters, and co-polyetheramides.

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45. (Currently amended) The combination of claim 17, wherein the [functional] first layer (50) is made from expanded polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE).
46. (Original) Articles of clothing made from the combination of claim 17.
47. (Previously presented) The combination of claim 21, wherein said at least one reinforcement comprises a seam tape comprising an adhesive tape.
48. (Previously presented) The combination of claim 21, wherein said at least one reinforcement comprises a seam tape comprising a textile tape.
49. (Previously presented) The combination of claim 21, wherein said at least one reinforcement comprises a seam tape comprising a laminate tape.
50. (Previously presented) The combination of claim 21, wherein said at least one reinforcement comprises a seam tape comprising a waterproof tape.
51. (Previously presented) The combination of claim 21, wherein said at least one reinforcement comprises a seam tape comprising a thermoplastic film.
52. (Previously presented) The combination of claim 21, wherein said at least one reinforcement comprises a seam tape having a width of 10 mm or less.
53. (Previously presented) The combination of claim 21, wherein the at least one reinforcement comprises a seam tape comprising a laminate of a woven bi-component textile layer, a functional layer and a knitted bi-component textile backer layer.
54. (Previously presented) The combination of claim 21, wherein said reinforcement comprises a seam tape comprising a knit band.

Claims 55-69 Cancelled